REMARKS

Upon entry of this Response, claims 1, 3-4, 7-10, 12-16, 21-24, and 26 will be amended and claims 17-18 will be canceled. Thus, claims 1-16 and 19-26 will remain pending. No new matter has been added. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested in view of the following remarks.

As a preliminary matter, claims 3, 12, 18, and 26 stand rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph. Claims 3, 12, and 26 have been amended in view of the Examiner's helpful comments (and claim 18 has been deleted). Reconsideration of these rejections is respectfully requested.

Claim 1 stands rejected under 35 USC 102 as being unpatentable over US Patent No. 6,504,534 ("Takase").

As illustrated in FIG. 2 of the present application, a graphical user interface window can be semi-transparent. For example, the spreadsheet window 130 shown in FIG. 2 is semi-transparent such that a portion 122 of an underlying word processing window 120 is still faintly visible. The calculations required to generate the faintly visible portion 122 can consume a substantial amount of power.

To conserve power, according to some embodiments it may be "determin[ed] that a display unit has transitioned from a higher power state to a power off state." For example, it might be determined that a user has turned off his or her computer monitor. In response to such a determination, it may be "arrang[ed] for an opaque graphical user interface window to be created in a graphics memory unit." For example, FIG. 3 of the present application illustrates an opaque window 150.[1] Because the window is opaque, the calculations required to display the faintly visible portion 122 of the word processing window 120 no longer need to be performed (and an unnecessary use of power may be avoided).

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[1] Obviously, if the monitor is turned off, no picture would <u>actually</u> be displayed.

Takase discloses that a blank "screen saver" can be provided to prevent damage to a computer monitor. For example, a blank screen saver might be displayed after a period of inactivity. Moreover, when the blank screen server is displayed for a pre-determined amount of time (*e.g.*, three minutes), power to the computer monitor can be automatically turned off. Col. 10, lines 39-53.

Thus, Takase does not disclose "determining that <u>a display unit has transitioned</u> from a higher power state to a power off state" as is now recited in claim 1. That is, it is not determined that a user has turned off his or her monitor. Nor does Takase disclose "arranging for an opaque graphical user interface window to be created in a graphics memory unit <u>in response to the determination</u>." Instead, Takase discloses:

- displaying a screen saver on a computer monitor after a period of inactivity, and

- automatically turning off power to the computer monitor <u>in response to the display of the screen saver.</u>

Nor do any of the other references cited in the Office Action, taken alone or in combination, disclose the features recited in claim 1.
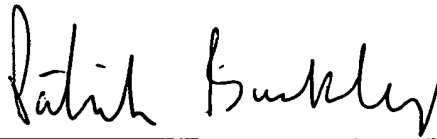
Moreover, such features would not be obvious in view of Takase and/or the other references. The purpose of the screen saver is to prevent damage that might result if a computer monitor were to display a static image for an extended period of time. Thus, the screen saver of Takase would serve no purpose if it were only to be displayed when the monitor was turned off.

In addition, claim 16 as amended recites "performing calculations" associated with a display of a second, semi-transparent "operating system" window over a first window. And that such calculations are not performed after a third, opaque "operating system" window is automatically created in response to a determination that display unit has been powered off. These are additional reasons when claim 16 is allowable. Note that by using an operating system window, power savings may be provided without using any special hardware as is needed in Takase.

9

CONCLUSION

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request allowance of the pending claims. If any issues remain, or if the Examiner has any further suggestions for expediting allowance of the present application, the Examiner is kindly invited to contact the undersigned via telephone at (203) 972-0191.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date

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